

SPRING 2009


Delta State

THE MAGAZINE FOR DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



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On the cover: The Capitol building in Washington, D.C. Photo by Russ Fortson.

President's Message

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Delta State is fortunate to have a strong and active alumni association with a long history of supporting the university's faculty, students, and programs. We pay tribute and express appreciation to those who manage the affairs of the organization as members of the Alumni Board. Below is a list of those who serve. The information includes name, year of baccalaureate graduation, current career position, and community of residence (Mississippi unless otherwise indicated). It is an impressive group.

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- Lynn Weaver ('97), Music Teacher, Petal High School, Raymond

Each year Delta State alumni meet at locations throughout Mississippi and in several other states. They enjoy networking opportunities and visiting about the good old days; but, the serious work of generating support for the university is always high on the list of priorities.

Members of the Alumni Board are instrumental in creating these events. They consistently achieve wonderful results in terms of attendance and support. Successes are no surprise because these folks are always conscientious in overseeing the activities of the Delta State University Alumni Association and in building the organization toward an even more positive future.

We are tremendously grateful to all who serve and all who give. Thank you.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John M. Hilpert".

John M. Hilpert
President

Alumni Message

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Greetings from the Delta! As I write this letter, your University is back in full swing, with the students, faculty, and staff beginning the spring semester. Wonderful shows are being planned at the Bologna Performing Arts Center, and our students are settling back into the routine of academic life. The Statesmen and Lady Statesmen are heating up the hardwood in Walter Sillers Coliseum, and our spring sports are already preparing for another great year.

Your Alumni Association is no different. Our Alumni Director, Jeffrey Farris, and his wonderful staff are busy planning new and exciting events for our alumni and friends. Chapter meetings in Washington County, Bolivar County, Jackson, and Atlanta are already in the works, and this year, we have decided to add a chapter meeting in the District of Columbia to recognize the alumni and friends who have migrated to our nation's capital. This summer, we will once again make the pilgrimage to New York City for the Mississippi in Central Park picnic, as well as host many other chapter meetings and special events. It is an exciting time in the Alumni Association, and if you would like to participate, then please give the Alumni Office a call at (662) 846-4660 or email alumni@deltastate.edu. We would love to have your input, and I do hope that you will take an active role in your Alumni Association.

When I was given the tremendous honor of presiding over the Alumni Association last fall, I knew that it was imperative that we continue to move the Association forward through new and innovative ideas. To that end, your Alumni Board of Directors has dedicated itself to serving as your "voice," and will do everything within its power to further our fine tradition of excellence. Please take a moment to look at the Alumni Board of Directors listed on the Table of Contents page of this issue. These fine men and women are your representatives, and I encourage you to thank them for their service, as well as challenge them to work as hard as possible to better our fine University.

Lastly, on a personal note, let me thank you for allowing me to serve as your National Alumni President. When I see the names of the past Presidents of the Alumni Association, I do not feel worthy to follow in their footsteps. It seems like only yesterday that I was a freshman English major who could not figure out the exit doors of the H.L. Nowell Student Union. But time has flown by, and I am honored to serve my fellow alumni.

I look forward to seeing you at our local chapter meetings, special events, or just back on our Cleveland campus very soon!

With warmest regards, I am sincerely yours,



John C. Cox '96
National Alumni Association President



SEPTEMBER 18 & 19
Join us for
Pig Pickin'
2009!

Check the website for more
information at www.deltastate.edu

Celebrating Campus Diversity

Delta State currently enrolls 76 international students representing 15 countries and serves the most diverse student population of any of Mississippi's public universities. Such diversity offers a unique opportunity for the Delta State community to experience a myriad of cultural events and programming. In celebrating this diversity, the university hosts numerous cultural events throughout the year bringing in nationally prominent speakers and performance groups.



HeartBEAT Afrika

» HeartBEAT Afrika, a three-member performing arts ensemble, visited the campus of Delta State University Nov. 3-7 presenting

a variety of lectures, performances, and workshops. The week-long event concluded with a concert. HeartBEAT Afrika is a fusion of traditional African percussion with a modern live band rhythm. Their interactive performance is a musical celebration of the African-American experience.

Chinese in the Delta

» Noted author, Dr. John Jung, kicked off a week-long research tour of the Delta with a lecture in Jobe Hall auditorium on Sept. 7. Jung's books *Southern Fried Rice: Life in a Chinese Laundry in the Deep South* and *Chinese Laundries: Tickets to Survival on Gold Mountain* reflect how being a Chinese family in the South affected his parents and family before the civil rights era. Jung accessed the



oral history holdings at Delta State's Archives and Museum researching his third book *Chopsticks in the Land of Cotton*.

Dialogue with Officials

» Delta State University's Black Alumni Constituent Group sponsored its Third Annual Dialogue with University Officials which was held during Homecoming. Alumni have the opportunity to talk with university administrators to learn more about the steps Delta State University has taken to become the best regional university in America.



Jeremy Pittman ('03), President of the Black Alumni Constituency Group, talks with Alumni Director, Jeffrey Farris.

Welcome Back

Delta State students celebrated the return to school by participating in a number of events during Welcome Back Week.

ice cream social

Hangin' out..

Foam Party!!!

Fun on the Quad

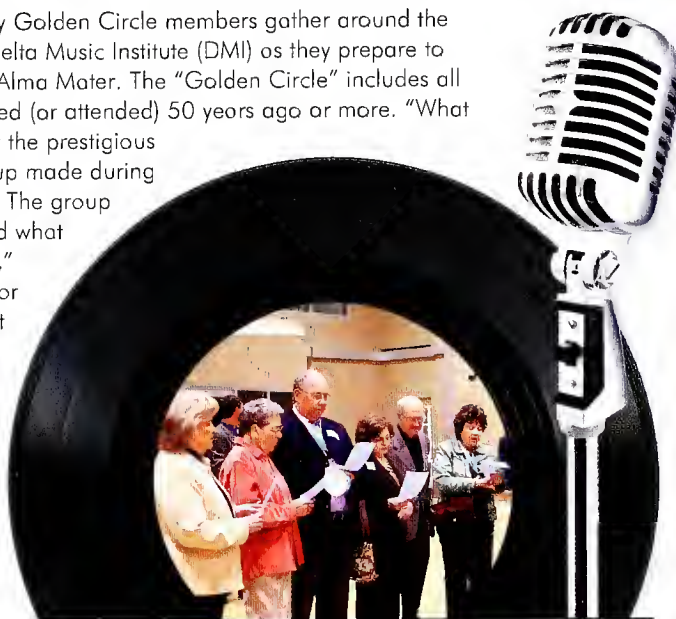
slippin' n' slidin'

Slipping and sliding on the quad with friends, meeting the faculty at the President's ice cream social, or dancing at the "Fun in the Foam" event were just a few of the activities students enjoyed.

we ♥ DSU

Alma Mater on Record

Delta State University Golden Circle members gather around the microphone in the Delta Music Institute (DMI) as they prepare to sing the Delta State Alma Mater. The "Golden Circle" includes all alumni who graduated (or attended) 50 years ago or more. "What a wonderful memory the prestigious 'Golden Circle' group made during Homecoming 2008. The group experienced firsthand what the DMI has to offer," stated Alumni Director Jeffrey Farris. As part of Homecoming activities, the DMI held an open house to show off the new recording studios recently installed in Whitfield Gymnasium.



John Merrill Lectureship Opens

Associated Press Political Reporter, Emily Wagster Pettus, delivered Delta State University's first John Merrill Lecture on Nov. 19, in the H.L. Nowell Union Building.

The lectureship honors outstanding working Mississippi journalists and was made possible through the generosity of Dr. John Merrill, Delta State University Class of 1949.

A Mississippi journalist and public affairs analyst, Pettus covers the state legislature for the AP and has worked in a variety of journalistic capacities in her two decades of experience.

"Covering the legislature has given me the opportunity to meet some outstanding individuals and colorful characters," said Pettus.

Noting that Mississippi government

is dominated by men, Pettus encouraged women to be more active in politics. She also encouraged the journalism students in attendance to get their degrees and work in Mississippi.

The John Merrill Lecture was established to bring working journalists to speak to campus classes. Dr. Merrill, a legendary journalism educator and author, is Professor Emeritus at the University of Missouri.



Emily Wagster Pettus (center) speaks with Delta State students Mary Beth Johnson (left) and Jessica Veazey, both of Olive Branch.

NEWSMAKERS

Miriam C. Davis, professor of History at Delta State University, has returned from a British speaking tour promoting her new book, *Dame Kathleen Kenyon: Digging Up the Holy Land*. The book is a biography of one of the greatest female archeologists of the 20th century and has received national attention and rave reviews.



John M. Hilpert, president of Delta State University, was elected to the prestigious post of vice chair of the Commission on Colleges for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The thirteen-member council is the executive arm of the commission with primary responsibility for interpreting commission policy and procedure.



Tyrone Jackson ('94), former interim dean of Graduate and Continuing Studies at Delta State University, accepted a position as associate vice president for Student Services and Enrollment Management at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.



Ron Koehler, professor and chair of the Department of Art at Delta State University, was awarded the Mississippi Humanities Council's 2008 Teacher of the Year Award. His work has been displayed in over 600 exhibitions and has received over 60 awards.

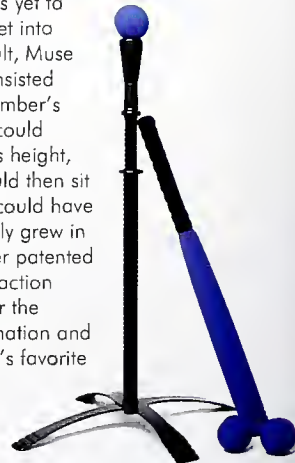


hey alumni,

Charlie is a large, round, spotted figure with a friendly expression, wearing a red cap and red shoes. He is waving with his right hand. The character is covered in brown spots on a light tan background.

A large crowd of people is gathered in front of the U.S. Capitol building. The building's iconic dome and neoclassical architecture are prominent. Many people in the crowd are holding American flags. The scene is festive and celebratory, typical of a major national event like an inauguration.

Dr. Clyde Muse ('52), president of Hinds Community College, is one of several people credited with coming up with the sport that is now enjoyed every summer by boys and girls around the country. In 1961, Muse was looking for a way for younger players, who had not developed enough skills yet to throw or hit a pitched ball, to get into the game of baseball. As a result, Muse developed a t-ball kit which consisted of a wooden block, a metal plumber's pipe, and a radiator hose that could be adjusted to match the child's height, usually waist high. The ball would then sit on top of the pipe so the child could have a swing at the ball. T-ball quickly grew in popularity. Although Muse never patented his invention, he still finds satisfaction in knowing that children all over the nation have learned the coordination and teamwork skills to play America's favorite pastime through his creation.



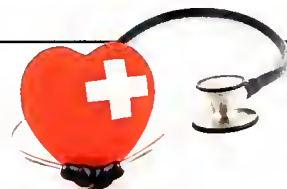


Shimeka Banks, Oceanside, CA; Elizabeth Kaitlyn Mize, Paris, MS; Spencer Richardson, Gulfport, MS; Natalie Ellington, Webb, MS; Logan Lynch, Yazoo City, MS.

did you know...

80% of Delta State students who applied were accepted into Medical School?

This year, five of the six Delta State student applicants were accepted into the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, and the sixth will enroll after completion of an enrollment training program. "This group sets a fine example for students everywhere," said Dr. Barry Campbell, Chair of the Division of Biological and Physical Sciences. Over the years, Delta State has built a tradition of success qualifying students for medical school. "A large percentage of our students who apply get accepted," said Campbell. "Delta State has a reputation for providing high quality students."



did you know...

A Delta State student created the Boy Scouts GIS merit badge?

Michael Koehler, a computer information systems major from Cleveland, has been working for over a year to add a new merit badge to the Boy Scouts of America's catalog. The merit badge will be for accomplishments using GIS technology. GIS, or global information systems, refers to technology that captures, stores, analyzes, and manages data that are spatially referenced to Earth. Koehler is both a technician in the GIS office and an Eagle Scout with over 60 merit badges. The Boy Scouts of America officially named the GIS merit badge a viable project in February 2008.



did you know...

You can Hike, Row, and Climb your way to a degree at Delta State?

Delta State University recently received a privately funded endowment/professorship to re-establish and revitalize the recreation program once passionately led by Mr. Dave Heflin, Assistant Professor Emeritus of HPER. This degree program allows graduates to find employment with parks and recreation, wilderness recreation, sports administration, environmental land recreation, and many others. Another component of the endowment is the Delta State University Outdoor Program (DSU OP). This program is a student-run club membership that participates in outdoor adventures all around the south. The DSU OP has been rock climbing in Arkansas, Alabama, and Tennessee and skiing and snowboarding in Idaho. Future courses and outings include a spring break trip to Moab, Utah for a week-long mountain bike trip and a week-long summer hike and kayak trip to Yellowstone Park.



Facilities Growth Spurt

Over the past five years, Delta State University Athletics has undergone one of the largest facility improvement campaigns of any school in NCAA Division II. There have been three new facilities built and many renovations to existing structures. This fall and spring, two major upgrades will be completed – University Field and Walter Sillers Coliseum.

In October, construction crews completed renovations on the locker rooms and coaches offices at Walter Sillers Coliseum, and the court received a much-needed face lift. This project more than doubled the locker rooms for the Statesmen and Lady Statesmen.

This summer DSU Athletics introduced a redesigned logo, and the court at Walter Sillers Coliseum was repainted to feature the new logo.

University Field, home to the Lady Statesmen softball team, expanded the dugouts and added two new decks. The project was completed in time for the start of the 2009 season.

The Lady Statesmen occupied the first-base dugout, complete with a tunnel to the locker room, and upgraded rest room facilities for the team and fans. Two new reserved-seat decks sit atop the dugouts down each base line.

In addition to the projects at Sillers Coliseum and University Field, Rainey



Ferriss Field's new videoboard came online in late January.

Electronics completed the scoreboard project in January. New boards went up at Dave "Boo" Ferriss Field and University Field. The new boards feature the latest scoreboard technology. Fans noticed a major difference at home games that started in February.

"We're pleased to see our plans coming

together," stated Athletic Director Jeremy McClain. "When the spring semester is complete, our student-athletes and fans will have seen tremendous improvements to many of our facilities. The greatest thing about it is that there's more to come. This is an exciting time for Delta State."

Sports Hall of Fame Inductions

On March 27, the DSU Sports Hall of Fame welcomed new members, while the DSU Alumni Coaches Hall of Fame opened its doors to two former coaching greats at its annual Induction Banquet.

Members of the 2009 Sports Hall of Fame class include: Matt Baity (Swimming & Diving), Pam Lockett (Women's Basketball), Brad Longino (Men's Basketball), Dennis Raines (Football), Judson Thigpen (Baseball), Mitch Terrell (Football), and Mandy Foster Mixon (Softball).

This year's Coaches Hall of Fame class included the legendary Horace McCool, who directed the Statesmen football program to a record 76 wins, and A.C. Williams, whose coaching career included over 775 victories in baseball and basketball at coaching stops in Georgia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi.

This year's Distinguished Statesmen recipient was former Statesmen football player Jerry Sullivan. Sullivan transferred to DSU from Florida State in 1966. Sullivan

began his coaching career at Vicksburg High. For 17 seasons, the Miami, Fla., native patrolled the sidelines at Kansas State, Texas Tech, South Carolina, Indiana, Louisiana State, and Ohio State. For the past 18 years, Sullivan has coached in the NFL with San Diego, Detroit, Arizona, and San Francisco.

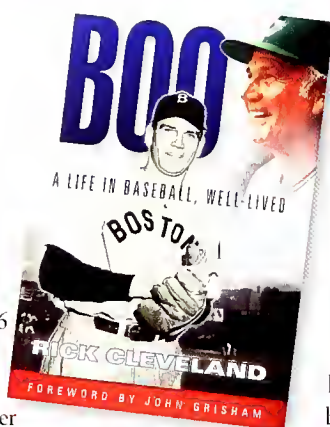
Plaques recognizing the careers of the inductees into the Sports Hall of Fame will be on display for the next two years at Chadwick-Dickson Fieldhouse inside the Bob M. Dearing Hall of Fame Room.

A Life Well-Lived

By Rick Cleveland and Matthew W. Jones

This is a story that begged to be told. Delta State's beloved "Boo" Ferriss won 46 games in his first two seasons (1945-46) as a Major League pitcher for the Boston Red Sox. Only Grover Cleveland Alexander (1911-12) won more, and he won just one more. In 1946, Ferriss won 25 games and helped the Red Sox run away from their arch-rival New York Yankees and reach the World Series. Ferriss pitched a shutout in game three, beating the St. Louis Cardinals. By July of 1947, Ferriss, a small-town country boy from the Mississippi Delta, had established himself as one of the most promising young pitchers in the history of America's pastime.

And then one pitch essentially ended it all. On a cool, wet night in Cleveland, Ferriss felt a sharp pain in his right shoulder in the seventh inning when he snapped off a curve ball for a bases-loaded, inning-ending



shutout. Incredibly, he finished the game and the shutout. Doctors didn't know it then, but he had torn the labrum in his right shoulder.

So instead of setting Major League pitching records, Ferriss became a coach, first with the Red Sox and then back home in Mississippi. At Delta State, Ferriss created a baseball paradise and became one of the most beloved coaches college baseball has ever known.

Boo: A Life in Baseball, Well-Lived, a biography written by Rick Cleveland, is his story. Best-selling author John Grisham provides the foreword.

Copies of the book are available for purchase online. For more information, please log on to www.booferrissbook.com.

DSU Soccer Setting Records

The 2008 season proved to be one of the best for both the Statesmen and Lady Statesmen soccer programs; a season that included four All-Gulf South Conference selections and several team records being broken.

Junior Melissa Webber and sophomore Ashley Cechovsky were voted to the All-GSC Second Team following a 10-7-2 season by the Lady Statesmen. The 10-7-2 record was the best record in school history. Red shirt goalkeeper Sarah Prevost came back from a season-ending freshman campaign to record the most wins (11) by a keeper in a single season, while Cechovsky delivered with a team-high 11 goals.

The Statesmen started 2008 in record setting pace but found it difficult to win games down the stretch. DSU finished the year 8-9-1. Senior Ricardo Callender and sophomore Steven Aze were voted to the All-GSC Second Team, the most selections for the Statesmen since 2006.

Junior forward David Horstmann established a new record for career goals with 22.



SPORTS SHORTS

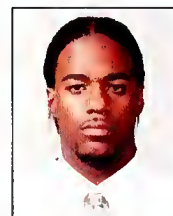
Artichuk Finalist

Jennifer Artichuk, a five-time NCAA All-American swimmer, has been named one of nine finalists for the NCAA's most coveted female prize, the NCAA Woman of the Year Award. Artichuk, of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, was a five-time NCAA All-American and an 11-time Honorable Mention All-American for the Lady Statesmen Swimming and Diving Team from 2004-2008.



Eubanks Receives Honor

Michael Eubanks, one of the most decorated student-athletes in the history of Delta State University, has been named the male 2007-08 Division II National Scholar-Athlete of the Year by the NCAA Division II Conference Commissioner's Association. Eubanks earned a 3.61 cumulative grade point average in biology and chemistry as one of the very top Division II football players in the country last year at Delta State University.



Statesman Magic

Former Statesmen basketball player Jeremy Richardson is currently a member of the NBA's Orlando Magic. The Zachary, La., native played in the 2005 and 2006 seasons and averaged 17.8 points and 5.0 rebounds per game, while being named an All Gulf South Conference and All Region selection his senior season.



Statesmen Baseball Eyes GSC Title

The Statesmen began the 2009 campaign fresh off another Gulf South Conference championship. They returned with the confident swagger of a solid baseball program that has been great in the past and expect to be successful again.

Just like any leading program, Delta State has its eyes and heart set on a national title. "The primary goal is to get back to the World Series to have a chance to win the National Championship," stated head coach Mike Kinnison. With numerous conference and regional championships and a national title on his resume, Kinnison knows what needs to be done to make it back to St. Louis.

Statesmen veterans, along with the fresh cast list, showed promise of productivity during fall practices. "During the offseason, we showed the ability to hit; we have speed, not top to bottom, but in spots, and defensively we have a chance to be a solid club," said Kinnison.

"The strength of the club could be the middle infield with Devin Goodwin and Clay Sartain returning. They are both guys who have started multiple years for us and who have been through a lot of GSC games. We expect them to have another good year," assured Kinnison.

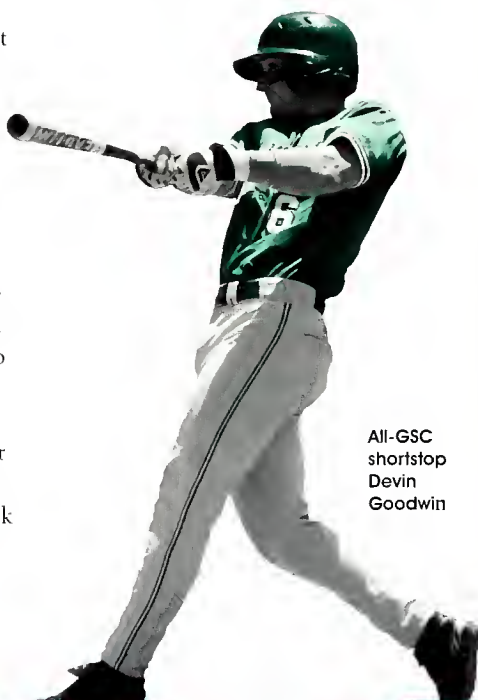
The duo has re-written the Statesman Career Record Book as well. Sartain is noted for hits (215), doubles (50), and runs (156), while Goodwin is noted for homeruns (25). Both look to continue to add numbers and climb through the ranks of the DSU elite.

Any team relies on pitching depth to make it back to the National title picture, and Delta

State is no different. "We have recruited to have a little more pitching depth this year. We will have more numbers, and a few more older guys that we can go to. We have a chance to be a solid pitching staff," said Kinnison.

DSU, once again, dove headfirst into a painstaking list of opponents capable of their own success. The Statesmen opened the season at home against the tough, NAIA powerhouse, Belhaven College to begin the suffocating 60 plus game schedule.

At the end of the year, only one team can be the national champion. When the dust settles, the Statesmen plan to be that team.



All-GSC
shortstop
Devin
Goodwin



Headed Home

After spending 12 years in professional baseball with five Major League organizations, former Delta State University standout Matt Miller spent the fall back at Ferriss Field. The former reliever was completing course work on his degree while imparting knowledge he gained during his time with the Cleveland, Boston, Colorado, Pittsburgh, and Texas organizations.

"Having Matt back this fall was a great learning experience for our guys," said Mike Kinnison, Statesmen head coach. "He's been a great ambassador for our program at the Major League level."

Miller pitched for the Statesmen during the 1995 season, posting a 1-2 record with nine saves. In 24.2 innings pitched, Miller only allowed seven runs for an ERA of 0.36.

Miller made his professional debut with the Greenville Bluesmen of the independent Big South League. After a successful stint in the minor leagues, Miller broke into the majors in 2003.

"Matt has been such a positive addition to our staff as a volunteer this fall. He's a natural at sharing his knowledge of the game and I believe our guys have bought into his message," added Kinnison.

While Miller continues to explore his future with the game of baseball, it's certain his love for the Delta State baseball program remains strong.

BASEBALL REUNION SET FOR THIS FALL

Coch Coach Mike Kinnison will host the biannual Statesmen Baseball Reunion this fall. A great tradition, the reunion invites former players, coaches, and managers back to campus to enjoy fellowship and reminiscing with more than three generations of Statesmen baseball greats.

While a firm date has not been set, Friday will include a golf tournament at the Garrell Foreman Golf Course on the DSU campus, followed by an inter-squad game by current DSU players. Saturday's activities will include a luncheon in the morning and two alumni games in the afternoon representing more than six decades of players. The reunion weekend will conclude with a Statesmen home football game. Please log on to www.gostatesmen.com for more information.

New Coach, Same High Expectations

First-year head coach, Casey Bourgoyne, is leading the Lady Statesmen through the gauntlet, that is the Gulf South Conference, this season with a limited roster of only 14 players.

The Lady Statesmen have reached the GSC tournament in each of the past 23 seasons. It will be up to the senior leadership of First Team All-GSC outfielder Brittany Tillery and Kristi Basso to ensure another trip this season.

Tillery led the Lady Statesmen with a .450 batting average and 41 RBIs, while Basso hit .220 in limited action behind the plate.

The Lady Statesmen's success this season will also ride on the arms of junior pitchers Edie Oliver, Kate Moreland, and Brooke Allgood. Oliver finished last season 10-10 with a 3.44 ERA after going 9-5 as a freshman, while Moreland went 11-9 with a 3.48 ERA after a 4-4

freshman season.

Allgood brings the experience of a junior college National Championship at Wallace State to the table, along with a 14-1 record and a 0.92 ERA as a sophomore.

Second Team All-GSC selections Brittany Eikner and Chelsea Carr will anchor the infield. The duo combined to make just 16 errors in 323 opportunities. Eikner hit .291, while Carr hit .282.

With the addition of hard-hitting catcher Kim Hensley, from Land O'Lakes, Fla., power-hitter and former catcher, Courtney Clark, will



All-GSC candidate Courtney Clark smashes a hit at University Field.

see time in the outfield and at third base, while Paige Silverthorn will hold down the other side of the diamond. Clark hit .272 as a sophomore, but was named Second Team

All-GSC as a freshman.

The Lady Statesmen returned six starters, two pitchers, and nine players with significant playing time. With a tradition rich program and experience on the field, the Lady Statesmen look poised to continue the string of tournament appearances.

Statesmen Football Repeats As Gulf South Champs

The 2008 Statesmen football team made school history by winning back-to-back Gulf South Conference Championships. The 2008 senior class made three-straight NCAA playoff appearances, claimed two GSC Championships, and played in the 2006 national semifinals.

The Statesmen became the first team since the 2001-02 season to repeat as outright GSC football champions. Coach Ron Roberts claimed his second-straight GSC Coach of the Year accolade in just his second season as head coach.

Ten Statesmen were named to the All-Gulf South Conference First or Second Teams, led by junior linebacker Lardester Hicks-Green, who was named the GSC and Super Regional Two Defensive Player of the Year. The Chicago, Ill., native was

also named to the Associated Press and Daktronics All-American team. Dominique Davenport, a first-year starter from Baldwin, was named GSC Defensive Freshman of the Year.

Offensive tackle Mark Ellis, safety Dominic Spinks, center Pete Vaseau, and running back/receiver Trevar Deed were each named to the Daktronics All-Super Regional Two Team as well.

Senior wide receiver, Chad Schroeder, was named to the American Football Coaches Association All-American Team as an all-purpose athlete.

"We still feel like we left something on the table. With 17 starters returning and one of the best recruiting classes in school history, I believe we have the nucleus for a deep run in 2009," concluded coach Roberts.



2009 DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Tentative: Times will not be finalized until June 2009.

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
9-27	Texas A&M	Kingsville, TX	6 pm
9-12	Arkansas-Monticello	Monticello, AR	6 pm
9-19	Harding University	Cleveland	TBA
9-25	Clonchard Baptist University	Arkadelphia, AR	TBA
10-1	Valdosta State University	Cleveland	7 pm
10-10	University of West Alabama	Livingston, AL	TBA
10-15	University of North Alabama	Florence, AL	7 pm
10-22	Southern Arkansas University	Cleveland	7 pm
10-31	Arkansas Tech University	Russellville, AR	TBA
11-7	University of West Georgia	Cleveland	TBA
11-14	NCAA 1st Round	TBA	TBA
11-21	NCAA 2nd Round	TBA	TBA
11-28	NCAA Quarterfinals	TBA	TBA
12-5	NCAA Semifinals	TBA	TBA
12-12	NCAA FII Championship	TBA	TBA

School of Nursing Gets New Name



Robert E. Smith

The Delta State School of Nursing was named in honor of Robert E. Smith during an April 1 ceremony in recognition of his generous financial support. A retired farmer, Smith has endowed seven scholarships to Delta State University.

"The Cleveland community has played a very important part in my life. This country, the community, and, above all, God have blessed me in many ways," said Smith. "I hope the Robert E. Smith Nursing Scholarships give encouragement and opportunities to worthy young people in preparing them for a career in healthcare."

"Mr. Smith's gift and pledge is the largest ever from an individual to the University," said Keith Fulcher, executive director, Delta State University Foundation, Inc. "His thorough and diligent planning of his estate will one day transform the School of Nursing and enable them to provide hundreds of scholarships to aspiring nursing students."

Peavey Makes a Difference

Hartley and Mary Peavey of Peavey Electronics recently provided a \$55,000 musical equipment grant to support curricula at the Delta Music Institute, the center for recording arts and music industry studies at Delta State University.

"The music of the Mississippi Delta has influenced countless musicians around the world, and it inspired my lifelong passion for making the tools that allow us to create music," said Hartley Peavey, founder and CEO of Peavey Electronics Corporation. "I hope that this endowment will act as a bridge to link the rich musical legacy of the Delta region to the next generation of music professionals."

Tricia Walker, director of the Delta Music Institute, said "the Peavey gift will bolster the Delta Music Institute's burgeoning live audio production department, providing students with a rare opportunity to work with state-of-the-art sound reinforcement technology."

"We are very grateful to receive such generous support from Peavey Electronics," said Walker. "As one of the world's largest



Mary and Hartley Peavey

makers of music equipment—not to mention a technology leader with more than 180 patents to its credit—Peavey stepped up with a complete package that will be instrumental in our students' success at the Delta Music Institute."

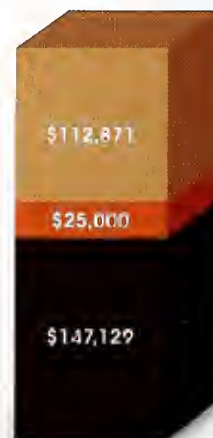
Founded in 1965, Peavey® is one of the world's largest manufacturers of musical instruments and professional sound equipment.

The "Statesman Challenge Gift"

The Delta State University Foundation announced that several anonymous alumni have donated \$25,000 to *The Delta State Fund*, the Foundation's unrestricted fund, to initiate the "Statesman Challenge Gift."

"The purpose of the Challenge is to encourage donations from alumni and friends who haven't made a gift this year and to challenge those who have already made a gift to make a second donation," said Dameon Shaw, assistant director of Annual Giving. "We have received 470 gifts as of Jan. 15 totaling \$147,000 towards our goal of \$285,000."

Goal: \$285,000
by June 2009



TO MAKE YOUR GIFT

Gifts towards the Challenge may be mailed to DSU, Box 3141, 1003 West Sunflower Road, Cleveland, MS 38733 or made online at www.deltastate.edu/foundation. Also, All gifts to the Challenge count towards membership in The Delta State Fund's annual giving clubs.



1956 Graduate endows scholarships

There is nothing more commendable than someone who will risk their own life to fight for their country. Harry H. Harrell, 81, not only fought for this country but greatly values education and is willing to give back all that he can. "One of his goals is to ensure scholarship funds are available for the needy and deserving students to receive a college education," stated Ann Giger, director of Donor Relations at Delta State.

As a Delta State graduate ('56), Harrell has great appreciation for his degree and for the educators who taught him. His goal is not only to help people to get an education, but to challenge others with college degrees to do the same and give back a share of what they have earned from their education to those most in need.

"I was once needy," Harrell said. "But I had the blessing of God and the GI Bill that put me through Delta State Teachers College."

Harrell has set up a scholarship fund through the Delta State Foundation called the



Harry H. Harrell

Harry H. Harrell Endowment Scholarship. Harrell's donation to the university has been set up as a Charitable Gift Annuity and when he passes away his legacy will live on through the students who receive his scholarship.

"I hope all Delta State alumni begin to notice how important an education is and make a gift to support the University's scholarship program," Harrell said.



Delta Academy announces Graeber Scholarships

Cooper McCachren (standing right), a recruiter with the Delta State University Admissions Office, visits with Delta Academy students, Taylor Pang and Crystal Garrard. The students were informed of the availability of a scholarship provided by the Graeber Foundation to assist students from Delta Academy in furthering their education at Delta State.

Established in December 2005 by the late Lewis A. Graeber, Jr. of Marks, the Graeber Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund provides scholarships for students enrolled at Delta State. The scholarships are available to students of Delta Academy.

Eligible students may enroll at Delta State upon graduation or transfer from other higher education institutions," said Twyla Gist, academic counselor at Delta Academy. "We are very pleased to have four former students, Lakon Tate (Clarksdale), Kristen Smith (Marks), Laura White (Marks), and Lindsay Hudson (Marks), receive a Graeber Foundation Scholarship at Delta State."

When making the gift in 2005 to endow the scholarship Mr. Lewis Graeber stated "Delta State University is one of the best schools in Mississippi. Delta State provides the opportunity for a quality education to our children, and it is right here at home."

Scholarship Aids Student



Christy Gonzalez (right) with Eloise Stratton Walker

Christy Gonzalez, a senior elementary education major from Cleveland, was the 2008 recipient of the Eloise Stratton Walker Endowed Scholarship. "I could not find a better elementary education program than the

one at Delta State University," stated Gonzalez. "I am indeed very fortunate to earn my degree from Delta State." Christy graduated in December 2008 and will teach in the Delta area while pursuing her Master's degree in Education at Delta State.

The Eloise Stratton Walker Endowed Scholarship was established in 1998 in honor of Mrs. Eloise Stratton Walker who served as an associate professor and coordinator of the Undergraduate Elementary Education Program from 1970-1993. "Eloise Walker set the bar for high standards and exemplary teaching while a member of the elementary education faculty," stated Dr. Leslie Griffin, dean of the College of Education. Even though Mrs. Walker is retired, she continues to work in the education field as a consultant.

THE DELTA STATE FUND 2008-09 Annual Giving Clubs

The following alumni, parents, faculty, staff, corporations, and friends have believed in the mission of Delta State University and have a desire to make a difference in students' lives. The below donors' unrestricted gifts to THE DELTA STATE FUND impact the 4,100 students on the Delta State campus.

Gifts made between July 1, 2008 through January 15, 2009 are recognized below. Membership for the 2008-09 fiscal year ends June 30, 2009. The * denotes first-time donors to THE DELTA STATE FUND.

If your name is not listed below, see page 15 for information on making a gift.

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See information about the Statesman Challenge Gift on page 11.

By Dorothy Showhan

the art of seeing



Light and color are Sammy Britt's language, and Nature is his subject. You can see this in his paintings and hear it when he talks about his work. He has shared his vision with the fortunate ones who have his paintings hanging in their homes and with generations of Delta State students.

"He taught us to see," says Richard Kelso, a painter who had his first art class with Britt at Delta State, "to look straight at Nature at different times of day. Not many were teaching this in the 1960's. But it's fundamental. It's the visual equivalent of teaching someone to read. Then they can grow and be their own teacher."

Growing up in Ruleville during the 1940's and 1950's, Britt had no artist role models other than Norman Rockwell in the magazines, but he knew he wanted to be an artist from the time he failed first grade. He failed because he spent all his time drawing instead of doing the assigned work. His family owned and operated a grocery store-service station and lived in the back of the store. Britt remembers his growing up years as good ones, playing every sport and

working in the family business with his mother, father, and two brothers, Billy ('60) and Don ('67). Hard manual labor stood him in good stead as he worked his way through college and graduate school and spent untold hours painting outside in the hot sun.

Though both his brothers are graduates of Delta State, Britt chose the Memphis Academy of Art instead. A year before his graduation from the Academy in 1964, portrait painter Nelson Shanks suggested that he go and study with a remarkable teacher in Provincetown, Massachusetts, at the tip of Cape Cod —

pocket, he left for Cape Cod and an experience that would prove to be life-changing.

Hensche called his style of painting the color realist movement with colors of the natural world and the perception of light being the essentials. He was the heir of the Impressionist French painter Claude Monet through the American Impressionist William Merritt Chase who taught Charles Webster Hawthorne who taught Hensche. These men were great teachers as well as great painters and passed on techniques of both to their students.

Britt knew that he had found his path,

He knew he wanted to be an artist from the time he failed first grade.

Henry Hensche. Britt was married to Linda by then and they had a daughter. He saw no way that he could go for a summer of study with Hensche as some of his classmates were doing, but he talked about it so much that Linda persuaded him to go. So with fifty dollars in his

and he would return to study with Hensche in the summers for the next 25 years. "The opportunity to study with one of the great colorists came through the guidance of God," Britt says.

Upon his return from Cape Cod, Britt



Relaxing in his studio, Sammy Britt reminisces about his career in art.

accepted a graduate assistantship in the Art Department at the University of Mississippi and went on to earn the Master of Fine Arts degree in painting in 1965. Malcolm Norwood, then chair of Delta State's Art Department, knew of Britt's many talents and had a job waiting for Britt after graduate school. Britt would continue on the faculty at Delta State until his retirement in 2002. He considers teaching one of his greatest blessings.

The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art in Laurel, whose director is DSU alumnus George Bassi ('87), mounted a major exhibit in 1999 that brought together the Hensche legacy and its influence on Britt and three of his students. The title of the exhibition was "A Painter's Painter: Charles Webster Hawthorne; the Influence of Provincetown and Henry Hensche on Sammy Britt, Gerald DeLoach ('71), Richard Kelso ('70), and George T. Thurmond ('72)."

Britt's former students DeLoach, Kelso, and Thurmond are all professional painters today and practice their art in Mississippi — Kelso in Jackson, DeLoach out from Alligator,

and Thurmond near Starkville. Like Britt, they were influenced by Hensche, and they all speak the language of light and color. They also stay in touch with Britt, their teacher and mentor.

I'm watching the colors in the wind.

Cleveland resident and art connoisseur Carol Tatum recalls traveling to Laurel to see the exhibit and feeling proud of Delta State's artistic tradition. A number of Britt's paintings hang in her home. "I love the colors and the way the light reflects," she says. "They give me a peaceful feeling."

Britt's students include not only a number of artists who make painting their sole profession, but many who combine teaching with their art. DSU faculty member Pat Brown ('74) is one. She says "Britt is a 'caring, nurturing teacher' under whose guidance her drawing skills improved. He is also very honest and does not hesitate to call it as he sees it." She remembers walking into the Wright foyer holding a coil-built ceramic vessel with

"creative" glazing of which she was very proud when Sammy came around the corner. "That is the ugliest pot I have ever seen," Britt said.


"My Cinderella pot became a lumpy, bumpy, everything-but-the-kitchen-sink,

glazed monstrosity," Brown says. "And he was right. I always wondered what I did with that pot!"

April Stewart ('93), one of Britt's students from the early nineties, remembers seeing him one day out on the sidewalk standing with his hands in his pockets. "Sammy, what are you doing?" she asked. "I'm watching the colors in the wind," he answered.

The teacher Britt still holds workshops and occasional art classes for local children and says he misses teaching on a regular basis. But the painter Britt is continuously at work in his studio in Cleveland. Britt and wife Linda have three adult children and six grandchildren.

To see pictures of Britt's studio and his paintings, go to his website: www.sammybritt.com.



Bill LaForge and Burns
Strider discuss politics
in the nation's capitol.

Capitol Care

By Lynne Jeter

Alumni make their mark in



ers Washington

The deciding moment in the 2002 American presidential campaign occurred not in a voting booth, but in the Supreme Court. And Bill LaForge ('72) was there to witness it.

A member of the Supreme Court Bar, LaForge was one of the few people permitted to attend the oral argument before the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Bush v. Gore*. But there was a catch. There were only 100 seats and many more than 100 qualified members of the Bar who wanted to witness a moment that would go down in history.

So from 3 a.m. until dawn, in subfreezing weather, LaForge hunkered down in a sleeping bag on the sidewalk outside the Supreme Court Building in line with scores of other lawyers. Around 8 a.m. he was waved in.

"I was number 24 in line, and I had the opportunity to witness first-hand one of the most important cases in Supreme Court and U.S. political history," said LaForge, who moved to Washington, D.C., in 1976 after working as a guard at Parchman State Penitentiary. Now a registered lobbyist and an attorney, he is the managing shareholder and government relations practice group leader with the Washington office of Winstead law firm.

"When I sat in my student government office at Delta State in 1972, I couldn't even dream of these and so many other wonderful opportunities that presented themselves to me through my work on Capitol Hill."

LaForge isn't the only DSU graduate to land in the nation's capitol with a diploma, training, and ambition. Burns Strider ('88) had a lifetime of political experience by the time he was in college. The son of the late, legendary Grenada County Sheriff Jesse A. "Big Daddy" Strider (who played a key role bringing about racial reconciliation during his time in office from 1966 to 1984), Burns Strider was campaigning door to door from the time he could walk. Before he graduated from Delta State, he had interned for then-Congressman Mike Espy (D-Miss.) and then Senator Al Gore (D-Tenn.).

Since then, he has held increasingly high-profile positions, including southern region communications director for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, senior advisor to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, and director of policy for the U.S. House Democratic Caucus. In 2007, he was recruited to join Senator Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign as a senior advisor and director of faith and religious outreach. Strider now runs his own consulting firm, The Eleison Group, to serve political, nonprofit, and business interests.

THE COCHRAN CONNECTION

P.J. Waldrop ('06) was so enthusiastic about getting into the action that he drove to Capitol

Hill the day after graduation.

"I was the Delta State/Delta Council congressional fellow in 2005," explained Waldrop. "Through this fellowship in Senator Thad Cochran's office, I gained an incredible understanding of the legislative and appropriations process." He was motivated to return to Washington after graduation, and now works in Senator Cochran's office, along with fellow alumnus (and now roommate) Will Crump ('05).

Will Crump was born in Washington, where his father worked on Capitol Hill for a decade. The family returned to small town life near Cleveland (where his parents are both now executives at Viking Range Corporation in Greenwood). Crump entered Delta State as a pre-med major, but after interning for Senator Trent Lott the summer before his senior year in college, he

changed his focus.

"I realized how much I loved the city and working in the Senate," explained Crump, who moved to Washington in the spring of 2007.

After joining Senator Cochran's office as a staff assistant, he earned two promotions quickly and now serves as the legislative assistant in charge of health policy.

"I wouldn't say I had a head start," said Crump. "I just knew the area better. Coming back had its moments because when you spend most of your life in the Delta, where there

aren't many people and the pace of life is slower, you have to adapt quickly to the change."

Josh Manley ('02) also entered Washington politics via an internship on Capitol Hill. After serving in various capacities, he worked his way up on Senator Thad Cochran's team as a professional



staff member on federal appropriation issues, working with federal agencies on funding issues and other programs, and assisting with spending legislation in Congress.

"When I first arrived here, I didn't know anyone," said Manley. "Initially, my biggest challenge was making friends. Learning and adjusting to the culture of Capitol Hill/Washington, D.C. proved to be a challenge initially, but this seemed to work itself out over time. I even met my wonderful wife of four years working in Senator Cochran's office."

Manley had a chance encounter with President Obama on an elevator just before the start of his historic presidential campaign. "As the door was closing, a number of tourists saw him

There are
two types of
Hill staffers.
Those who
are from
Mississippi
and those
who wish
they were.



Capitol Hill has provided a professional home to a number of alumni including (from bottom) Kate Kinnison, P. J. Waldrop, Bill LaForge, Will Crump, Josh Manley, and Burns Strider.

and very excitedly rushed to the elevator to shake his hand," recalled Manley. "As they were shaking hands, the elevator door was unsuccessfully attempting to close (repeatedly). When the greeting concluded and the elevator door finally successfully closed, President Obama turned to those of us on the elevator and apologized. I looked at him and said, 'Don't be silly. That happens to me all the time.' He really laughed at that!"

Kate Kinnison, a senior majoring in English and political science, who also served as government affairs director for Delta State's Student Government Association, is spending the spring semester on Capitol Hill interning for Senator Cochran's office.

President Obama turned to those of us on the elevator and apologized. I looked at him and said, Don't be silly. That happens to me all the time.

"The internship is a wonderful opportunity to see how the city 'fits' and will help me see where I want to go in life," said Kinnison, who plans to attend law school somewhere in the south this fall. "If that plan involves returning to D.C., that's great!"

ENGLISH MAJORS GET POLITICAL

English major Lucy Richardson Janoush, ('78) was lured back to Capitol Hill as a legislative assistant after completing an internship with Congressmen David Bowen, who represented the second district in Mississippi. When the district lines shifted and Bowen decided not to run for re-election, she joined the staff of Congressman Jamie Whitten, the longtime chairman of the House Appropriations Committee who represented the first district in Mississippi.

"The English faculty did an outstanding job preparing me for my role in the halls of Congress," said Janoush, who later earned a master's degree in public administration from Mississippi State University. "My job involved quite a bit of reading and writing, and I had that down pat."

Josh West's ('05) congressional internship turned him on to public policy. An English major at DSU, after graduation he, like Janoush, went on for a master's degree in public policy and administration from Mississippi State University. It also made him aware of Mississippi's standing on the hill. "Our elected officials are some of the most powerful and most respected in the nation," said West. "A politico from Alabama once told me, 'There are two types of hill staffers. Those who are from Mississippi and those who wish they were,'" remarked West.

When he needs a political fix, West calls fellow alumni P.J. Waldrop and Will Crump. "They keep me well informed on all things D.C.," said West. "When it comes election time, the tables turn and I become the informant. It's easier to judge the political atmosphere in Mississippi when you live

here. People, not polls — I throw that jab at them when possible."

BIG TOWN, SMALL TOWN CULTURE

LaForge, perhaps the Delta State alumnus who has lived in the metro area the longest length of time, recalls the distinct challenge of being away from family

and friends in Mississippi.

"We tried to make the best of it by going home as often as possible and encouraging our families to visit us here," said LaForge, who resides in Fairfax County, Va., some 20 miles from downtown Washington, with his wife, Nancy. Their two children are now grown.

At first, the impersonal nature of government and the people running it surprised LaForge.

"The initial professional challenge was adapting to Washington and its ways. It takes some time to gain a real understanding about how government operates. As time went on, however, and as I began to understand the system and processes better, I realized it's a fairly small town culture," he said. "I got to know a lot of people. Regardless of their origin or home state, people were typically friendly and engaging, with southerners leading the way, of course."

Capitol Hill has been the home for many Delta State students and alumni over the years. While Senator Cochran's office has seen the largest number in the past few years, many alumni have made their alma mater proud by serving in various roles in many congressional offices over the years.

Delta State University has reason to hold its head high in the nation's capitol. Burns Strider recalls, "When I first came to D.C. to live, nearly every other intern was from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. I was very intimidated. I thought they would be smarter and know more than me. Far from it. DSU had prepared me well and I took on my tasks — and those of other interns when I had the chance — with success. It's important that you don't allow a chip to grow on your shoulder, taking on an adversarial role with those from schools and places often deemed 'elite.' Just accept them as fellow Americans looking to excel just like you. Just excel further and faster!"

By Lynne Jeter

taking it to the extrem

Former Delta State Tennis Stars Share Adventure in Endurance Races

It was just past dawn on a chilly autumn morning in the north Georgia mountains last November when Eunika Rogers ('95) and Salli Scott Young ('95) headed to the starting point of their first adventure race national competition.

The Delta State alumni were excited about participating in the event considered the "heart and soul" of adventure racing in the United States. They would be part of a three-person co-ed team required to navigate a series of checkpoints using only a map and compass to guide them while transitioning between several disciplines — trail running/trekking, mountain biking, paddling, and orienteering. They knew the race would require them to push the boundaries of human endurance and teamwork simply to finish.

Rogers and Young also knew the national race required something they were not accustomed to — the use of mechanical devices each team carries to confirm the passage of every checkpoint. They also would be leaving by train at Blue Ridge, Georgia, to travel six miles to the start line.

However, they didn't count on leaving behind in their hotel room the all-important race device. They didn't count on missing the train. They didn't count on event coordinators not allowing them to travel by automobile to the start line. So they returned to the boarding point and ran six miles on the railroad tracks just to reach the place to begin the race. They were unfazed about being an hour and a half behind everyone else. Yet they didn't finish last.

"To us, that was an amazing accomplishment, considering it was our first year in adventure racing," said Rogers, captain of Delta Force, the team name inspired by their alma mater. "We were laughing the whole way. There was no pressure on us. We wound up having the best time until it started raining and got into the thirties (degrees), but that's all part of it."

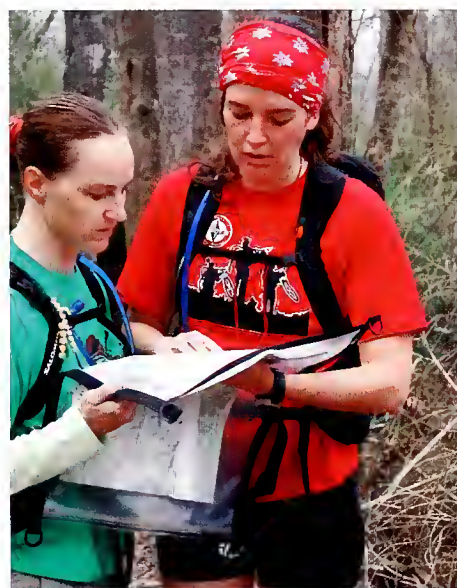
Rogers and Young met as freshman suitemates at Delta State in the early 1990s and

immediately shared a love of sports. Rogers, a Slovakia native who lived in Canada during her teen years, attended Delta State on tennis and cross country scholarships and also competed in swimming competitions. In 1994, she was named Delta State's Female Senior Athlete of the Year.

Young, a native of nearby Senatobia, also played tennis at Delta State on scholarship. Typically, the two played singles for the tennis team and often partnered for doubles matches. During their senior year, the team placed second in its conference.

"At Delta State, we really enjoyed playing other schools in tennis and had really fun times traveling to different places in the school van," recalled Rogers. "We should try to keep doing something like this," we would say to each other."

But as often happens with good intentions, the two fell out of touch after college. Rogers earned a fine arts degree and Young picked up an English degree with a minor in Spanish. Both were busy in graduate school, Rogers at the University of Memphis and Young at Ole Miss. When Young moved to Memphis to teach Spanish at White Station Middle School, the pair reconnected. Rogers was already living in the city and



Salli and Eunika plot their next move while preparing for an upcoming adventure race.



commuting to Northwest Community College to teach art.

"When I left Delta State, I quit playing tennis and turned to other sports," said Young. "Eunika got me interested in long distance running. We started running in marathons and from there got into 50ks, and that evolved into adventure racing."

Adventure racing combines two or more disciplines, including orienteering and navigation, cross-country running, mountain biking, paddling and climbing and related rope skills. An expedition event may span up to 10 days or more while sprints may be completed in a few hours. Because there is typically no "dark period" during races, competitors choose if or when to rest.

"When you show up for the event, they hand you a topo (topographical map) and give you coordinates (longitude and latitude) and you

plot the locations," explained Young. "You have to figure out the terrain and how to get where you're going. The locations on the map are checkpoints where you get your 'passport' stamped."

Rogers is the designated navigator. "I have no sense of direction," joked Young. "There are like two main roads in Cleveland and it took me a year and a half to know my way around! During my freshman year, I borrowed a friend's car to go to Burger King, and when I wasn't back after 45 minutes, they all knew I was hopelessly lost."

Their adventure racing season gears up

**They didn't count
on leaving the race
device behind or on
missing the train.**

in February, with an adventure race that requires paddling. They have plans to balance participation in adventure races this summer

with other non-race related adventures. They're mulling more challenging courses that take days to finish and "some crazy races that we're looking forward to, too," said Rogers.

"Teaming up with a fellow Delta State alum for endurance sports events is amazing," said Young. "We know each other so well," she said. "From my perspective and I think hers too, we just enjoy the day."

The regimen they embraced while competing on the Delta State tennis team — train hard, endure, expect the best from yourself and have fun — reverberated through their lives after college. Even though they initially lost touch with each other post-graduation, their Delta State bond brought them back together to accomplish their personal goals.

Class Notes

1940s

Dr. Pete Walker, of Cleveland, was selected King of Junior Auxiliary's Children's Benefit Ball of Cleveland.

1960s

1967

Leet Maggio, of Indianala, is teaching sixth grade Reading and Mississippi History at Central Delta Academy.

Elizabeth Shown Mills, of Nashville, TN, was awarded Library Journal's Best Reference Work for her latest book *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from artifacts to Cyberspace*.



FIORANELLI

1968

Vicki Bassie Fioranelli, of Cleveland, was selected as one of six outstanding alumni by the DSU College of Education.

1969

Jerry Brantley, of Philadelphia, was appointed to the District Three School Board Post.



THORNELL

Dr. John Thornell, of Florence, AL, accepted the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of North Alabama.



VERSEN

Joe Versen, of York, SC, has been named Chairman of the Board of Directors of the York County Regional Chamber of Commerce for 2009.

1970s

1970

Debbie Maxwell, of Shaw, has recently been named an Assistant Vice President with Planters Bank.

1972

Lt. Col. Michael E. Jones, of Memphis, TN, published his book *The Centurian and the Christ Child*.

1974

David Brodberry, of Clinton, was named the Assistant Director of the Mississippi High School Activities Association in Clinton.

Donald Porkerson, of Birmingham, AL, is Tri-Isthmus Group's new Chief Financial Officer.

William Lowe Waller, Jr., of Jackson, was named Chief Justice with the Mississippi Supreme Court.

1976

Gary Fioranelli, of Cleveland, has been reappointed by Governor Haley Barbour to the Rice Promotion Board.



WARREN

Leslie Warren, of Beaumont, TX, received Lamar University's Julie and Ben Rogers Community Service Award.

1978

Lynn Fletcher Shurden, of Cleveland, Director of the Bolivar County Library System, was presented the Peggy May Award by the Mississippi Library Association, and was also named president of the association.

1979

Judson Thigpen, of Cleveland, is the 2009 – 2011 President of the Delta State University Foundation Board of Directors.

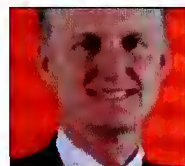
1980s

1980

Phyllis Waldron, of Little Rock, AR, recently signed on as Retention Specialist for the TRIO Scholars Program at Pulaski Technical College.

1983

Kelly Magee, of Batesville, will be the new Deputy Controller and Inventory Purchase Clerk for Lafayette County.



REED

1984

John Reed, of the Netherlands, was appointed CEO of Heerema Marine Contractors.



CONWAY

1985

Deborah Williams Conway, of Las Vegas, NV, was elected as Clark County Recorder.

1987

W. Laird Humberlin, of Cumming, GA, was appointed Vice President, Global Accounts, by ADT Worldwide.

1990s

1990

Ross Reily, of Greenville, is the Managing Editor of the *Mississippi Business Journal*.

1992

Kimberly Carver, of Byram, was promoted to Data Processing Officer with Trustmark National Bank in Jackson.



HUDSPETH

Mark Hudspeth, of Starkville, was named Assistant Coach for the Mississippi State University football program.

Audrey McBride, of Starkville, received the Golden Triangle Association of Realtors "Realtor of The Year" award for 2008.

1993

Amanda Holder, of Cleveland, was recently selected as the 2009 Teacher of the Year by A.W. James Elementary School in Drew.

Jeff Long, of Clinton, was named the 2009 Clarion Ledger All State Soccer Team Coach of the Year.

John May, of Carrollton, TX, is the Assistant Band Director and Percussion Coordinator at North Garland High School.



PARKER

David Parker, of Brandon, has been named Senior Vice President of Economic Development for the Electric Power Association of Mississippi.

Ricky Smither, of Booneville, was named Head Coach for the Northeast Mississippi Community College Football Team.



JACKSON

1994

Tyrone Jackson, of Cleveland, is employed by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College as the Associate Vice President for Student Services and Enrollment Management.

Patrick Robinson, of Oxford, was recently named principal of Oxford Middle School.

Lynn Smither, of Booneville, was named the Dropout Recovery Coordinator for Northeast Mississippi Community College.

1995

Felicia Keenum May, of Carrollton, TX, is the Director of Bonds at Lake Dallas Middle School.

1996

Major Dan Carpenter, of Charleston, has arrived for duty at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras, to serve as a member of Joint Task Force-Bravo (JTF-B).



COX

John C. Cox, of Cleveland, is the 2009 – 2011 President of the Delta State University Alumni Board of Directors.

Joey Latt, of Olive Branch, serves as the Director of Music Ministries at Maples Memorial United Methodist Church.

Paula Weaver, of Mobile, AL, has been promoted to the Senior Environmental Analyst for Mississippi Environmental Support for Entergy Services, Incorporated.



WILSON

1997

Celeste Embrey Wilson, of Southaven, was elected County Court Judge in Desoto County.

1998

Farrah Dennis Cox, of Brandon, will complete her master's degree in public administration (emphasis in public management) from Troy University.

Christopher J. M. Cummins, of Ripley, is serving as a Captain in the U.S. Army Reserves and is currently stationed in Bagram, Afghanistan.

Libby Logan, of Cleveland, was recently included in Realtor Magazine's "Top 30 under 30" for 2008.

Darlene McCune, of Natchez, is the Director of Choral Activities at Natchez High School.

Montie Moore, of Puloski, will attend seminary school to pursue the United Methodist Church's course of study to become a minister.

HALL OF FAME AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Induction into the Delta State University Alumni Hall of Fame is the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the DSU Alumni Association. Established in 2007, the Alumni Hall of Fame is extended to alumni and friends who have achieved professional distinction and made significant community service contributions at the local, national and/or international level and who have thus brought honor and distinction to Delta State University.

Nominations must be postmarked or delivered by May 31, 2009 for consideration for the November 7, 2009 Homecoming Awards.

SUBMIT TO: DSU Alumni Association, DSU Box 3104, 1003 West Sunflower Road, Cleveland, MS 38733
Complete criteria and selection information can be found on the alumni web site.
For more information contact the Alumni Office at 662.846.4660 or email alumni@deltastate.edu.



With the Classes

1999

Jacqueline Beasley, of Jackson, was promoted to Senior Vice President of Administrative Services.



CORRERO

Paul J. Corro, Jr., of Myrtle, was named Mississippi High School Principal of the Year for 2008 by the Mississippi Association of Secondary School Principals.



GARDNER

Mandy Gardner, of Brandon, was named one of the "Top 40 under 40" by the *Mississippi Business Journal*.

Michael Goodwin, of Irving, TX, is head Band Director for Spence Middle School and plays drums and percussion for Volley Ranch Baptist Church praise and worship band.

Jennifer Lungrin Milner, of Pontotoc, is employed as a K-5 music teacher at South Pontotoc Attendance Center. Her elementary and middle school honor choirs will attend the Brandon Elementary Choir Festival in April and Smokey Mountain Music Festival in Gatlinburg, TN in May.

2000s

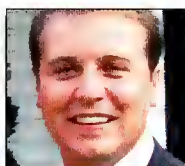
2001

Crystal Bentley Sims, of DeQueen, AR, received the Teacher of the Year Award for Sevier County for 2007 and the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges Teacher of the Year Award for 2008.

2002

Casey Bourgoyne, of Cleveland, was named Head Softball Coach at Delta State University.

Lisa LaFontaine Bynum, of Hattiesburg, was promoted to Communications Coordinator for Hattiesburg Clinic.



ENGLAND

Ryan T. England, of Southaven, is a State Farm Agent and Presidential Appointee on the 2009 – 2011 Delta State University Alumni Board of Directors.

Kisha Tinson, of Greenville, held her first concert at the Living Word Fellowship Center on July 13 in Greenville.

2003

Rodney Mayes, of San Antonio, TX, has been in the Air Force for the past five years. He is Communications/Computer Systems Controller-3C2X1 and was recently promoted to Staff Sergeant.



NARAN

Sid Naran, of Cleveland, was named Head Baseball Coach at Mississippi Delta Community College.

Easton Selby, of Clinton, is teaching photography at Coastal Caroline University. He recently won the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters' award of photography.



AMMONS

2004

Yancy Ammons, of Brandon, has been promoted to Director of Marketing for River Oaks, Woman's and Crossgates River Oaks Hospitals.



BLANSETT

Brian Blansett, of Cleveland, was recently named Communications and Marketing Director of the Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce.

Nathan Bynum, of Hattiesburg, is Territory Manager for Victory Pharma.

Federica Carlamagno, of Uruguay, is working for Pierpoint International.

Judy Cauey, of Starkville, was recently named the new Starkville School District Superintendent.

Brandon Hardin, of Amory, is the new Minister of Music at Meadowood Baptist Church.



SMITH

Chad Smith, of Centralia, KS, was hired by Heinen Bothers Agricultural Co.



ELDER

2005

Marks Elder, of Tuscaloosa, AL, was named Human Resources Assistant for the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center.



MIXON

Mathew A. Mixon, of Brandon, was named the Head Swim Coach for the Vicksburg Swim Association.



PULLEY

Dr. Margie Pulley, of Greenwood, was named Superintendent of Greenwood Public Schools.

2006

Clint Boleware, of Crystal Springs, is Director of Bands at North Pike High School.

Chris Gaines, of Southaven, is an Admissions Recruiter for Delta State University.



Brent Allen Leach, of Brandon, was recently added to the 40-man roster for the Los Angeles Dodgers Major League Baseball team.

2007

Desi Melancon Goodson, of Vicksburg, is teaching elementary music at Sherman Avenue Elementary School in Vicksburg.

Tim Goodson, of Vicksburg, teaches choir at Vicksburg Junior High School.

2008

Brett Boykin, of Hollandale, is an Account Manager at Southgroup Insurance Services in Cleveland.

Rebecca R. Hay, of Hernando, is a Teacher at Oak Grove Central Elementary School.



Christopher Johnson, of Cleveland, recently accepted a job as the Human Resources Coordinator at Isle of Capri, Lula.

Ashley Brown Owen, of Benton, is teaching music at Benton Academy. She is also the music leader at the Pleasant Hill Church of God in Carthage.

Erik Taylor, of Grenada, is serving as Choir Director at Amanda Elzy High School in Greenwood. He is also the organist for Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Cleveland.

Attended

Frances Pontin Jonoush, of Cleveland, was selected Queen of Junior Auxiliary's Children's Benefit Ball of Cleveland.



Bill Reedy, of Gulfport, was named Flat Rock Middle School's 2008 Wachovia Principal of the Year by Henderson County Schools.

Peter Woods (friend), of Mound Bayou, is owner of Peter's Pattery and was recently recognized in the *Desoto Magazine* for his pattery and his home.

Complete and return the form below to become an active member of the DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!

Class of or years attended _____

Name: _____

For our tax records, please use your full legal name.

Nickname: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Employer: _____

Job Title: _____

Email: _____

Phone (H): _____ (W): _____ (C): _____

Please check the type of membership that best suits your needs:

☐ 1 year (\$20 single, \$30 joint) ☐ Life (\$400 single, \$600 joint)

I would also like to join the following alumni groups:

☐ Accounting (\$10) ☐ Black (\$5) ☐ Music (\$5)
☐ Aviation (\$5) ☐ Economics (\$5) ☐ Nursing (\$5)
☐ Art (\$5) ☐ Family & Consumer Science (H. Ec.) (\$5)
☐ Athletic (\$10)

Total amount enclosed: _____

☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard

Card #: _____

Name: (exactly as it appears on card) _____

Signature: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Life dues can be paid in installments of \$50 each year.

Make Checks payable to: DSU Alumni Association
 Mail to: DSU Box 3104, 1003 West Sunflower Road, Cleveland, MS 38733

Baby Statesmen

All dates are in 2008 unless otherwise noted.



AEGERTER

Gabrielle Ann to M/M John Aegerter (Louann King '93), of Las Vegas, NV, on February 8.



CASTON

Warner Benton to M/M David Allen Brown '98 (Amanda Maranto '05), of Greenville, on February 11, 2009.



COLE

Romie Carroll to M/M Hunter Caston '99 (Lauren Fiaranelli '01), of Cleveland, on January 14, 2009.



CUMBERLAND

Campbell Jamison to M/M Roger Cole (Sara Champion attended), of Collierville, TN, on August 14.



CUNNINGHAM

Malli to M/M Drew Corley '01 (Bonni Brawn '02), of Madison, on October 21.



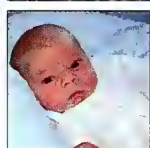
DEER

Charles Davis to M/M Jason Cumberland '96 (Tara Clark attended), of Brandon, on July 30.



DOUGLAS

Kyle "Alli Kyle" to M/M Kyle Cunningham '08 (Megan Little '04), of Cleveland, on June 4.



FINNIE

Ryleigh Katherine to M/M Joel Deer '98 (Amy Mayer '98), of Madison, on July 3.



FOSTER

Parker Stewart to M/M Heath Douglas '95 (Janelle Hobbs '95), of Greenville, on September 2.



GEORGE

Jeffrey Sowyer to M/M Billie Finnie '00 (Memorie McCreary '02), of Brandon, on September 11.

Derek to M/M Frank "Porter" Foster III '97 (Catherine "Cat" Foster '98), of Brandon, on August 15.

Jack Parker to M/M Justin George '00 (Dana Bradshaw '06), of Cleveland, on January 18, 2009.

William Royce to M/M Jeremy Hawk (Claire Jenkins '00), of Madison, on March 26.

Kenneth Alexander "Alex" to M/M Ken Holm (Renee Dean '96), of Jackson, on December 8.

Suzannah Logan to M/M Will Logan Hood (Kathryn Hargrave '98), of Cleveland, on December 3.

Addison Reed to M/M Steven Jeffords '01 (Sloy McComb), of Brandon, on August 13.



JEFFORDS

Brayden Lane to M/M William Lane Kimbrell (Jennifer Crocker '06), of Jackson, on December 11.



LAMB

Hallie Elizabeth and Mettie Anne to M/M Dana King '06 (Jennifer Sinquefield '05), of Tunica, on November 8.



LEE

Charles Eason to M/M Charles Lamb '06 (Bevin Lenahan), of Cleveland, on February 2, 2009.



MYRICK

Baylar Madalyn to M/M Andy Lee '98 (Presley Gainspoletti), of Cleveland, on December 9.



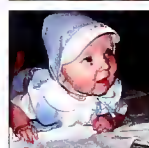
NEWSOM

Madison Denman to M/M Michael E. Montgomery '00 (Rena Denman '99), of Pensacola, FL, on April 9.



SATTERFIELD

Cash Milner to M/M Casey Myrick '99 (Sharea Milner), of Canton, on October 12.



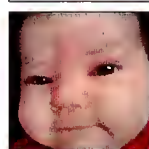
SCOTT

Cale Blake to M/M Clint Newsam '02 (Carla Sewell '01), of Tupelo, on April 25.



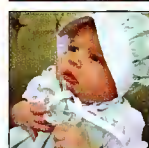
SMITH

Jonas Mitchell to M/M Jay Price (Jennie Elisabeth Mitchell '97), of Nashville, TN, on June 14.



TAYLOR

Presley Nicole to M/M Michael Satterfield '08 (Tanya Ellington '04), of Cleveland, on June 25.



VINCENT

Doty McLaurin to M/M Allen M. Scott (Lauren Doty '96), of Leland, on August 23.

Elizabeth Hannah to M/M Clifford Bryan Smith '99 (Mildred "Millie" Craig '99), of Southaven, on August 22.

Jacob Rush to M/M Jack Taylor, Jr. (Tanya Taylor '92), of Madison, on October 16.

Victoria Olivie (Olive) to M/M Jash Vincent '03 (Catherine Bishop '05), of Indianola, on October 2.

Christopher Neal to M/M Chris Warner (Marie Woods '03), of Tunica, on September 21.

Kaiden to M/M Michael Wilson '00 (Jan Long attended), of Collierville, TN, on December 26.

Michael R. to M/M Michael Wimberly, II '97 (Jennifer Tanner '98), of Notchess, on April 11.

Wedding Bells

All dates are in 2008 unless otherwise noted.

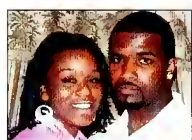
Sarah Frances Aguzzi (attended) to Jeffrey Scott Bufkin, of Cleveland, on January 9, 2009.

Jeanna Lachelle Alford '01 to Thomas Phillip Nichols, of Cleveland, on October 4.



AMMONS-COOPER

Yancy Cooper '04 to Chris Ammons '05, of Brandon, on September 27.



CARMICHEL-MILLER

Addie Keshundo Carmichel '03 to Aurelius Marcus Miller, of Shelby, on September 20.

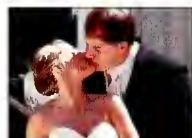


DAYVOLT-COCILOVA

Amanda Dayvolt to Stephen Cocilova '04, of Jackson, on April 4, 2009.

Sidney Martha Davis (attended) to Samuel David Ferris, of Oxford, on October 18.

Amelia Leigh (Amy) Dettor '02 to Micheal Andrew Dickerson, of Sardis, on September 4.



SELVY-FARMER

Erin Selvy '05 to Cameron Farmer '05, of Jackson, on April 19.

Edith Horris Buehler '05 to Thomas Andrew Fava, Jr. '99, of Hernando, on April 12.



CAMPUS-FERRISS III

Chelsea Ann Campus to David Meadow Ferriss III '04, of Nashville, TN, on October 11.



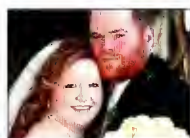
TUDDLE-FIONONELLI

Mia Claire Fiononelli '97 to Steven Robert Tuddle, of Memphis, TN, on February 7, 2009.



FITZGERALD-GIARDINA

Karen Marie Giardina '07 to Donald Keith Fitzgerald II '04, of Tuscaloosa, AL, on December 27.



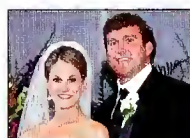
GILDER-BERRYHILL

Jennifer Gilder '03 to Anthony Berryhill, of Olive Branch, on November 8.



GRIFFIN-GROMMERSCH

Laura Lee Griffin '04 to Timothy Grommersch '02, of Southaven, on October 4.



HARTNESS-SMITH

Laura Virginia Hartness '04 to Chad Vernan Smith, of Madison, on May 10.



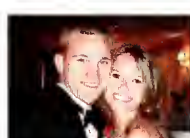
HINTON-SWANIGAN

GyElla Swanigan to Jess W. Hinton '98, of Brandon, on June 28.



INGRAM-NELSON

Sara Jane Nelson '06 to Heath Ingram '06, of Greenwood, on September 6.

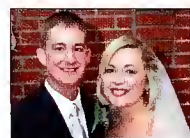


DUFFY-JENNINGS

Elizabeth Jennings '06 to Dallas Duffy, of Sugar Land, TX, on August 8.

Lindsay Horkins '06 to Thomas Alexander Jennings (attended), of Oxford, on November 3, 2007.

Celeste Monette Roach (attended) to David Ryan Jeter '06, of Germantown, TN, on October 11.



MCLEMORE-NEAL

Ashley Neal '08 to Cory Mclemore '07, of Vicksburg, on December 23.

Jade Nicole Blount to Sidney Melton (attended), of Boyle, on October 4.

Laura Biglane to John Wesley (Wes) Middleton '06, of Natchez, on September 20.

Jennifer Rae McGuffee '08 to Walter Lindsey Miller '08, of Cleveland, on January 10, 2009.



BRUNETTI-OSWALT

Elisa Brunetti (attended) to Michael Oswalt '06, of Oxford, on October 25.



MAYERS-PATE

Ann Marie Mayers '04 to Austin B. Pate '08, of Cleveland, on February 28, 2009.

Kabresha Spicer (attended), to Keith Powell, of Webb, on September 20.

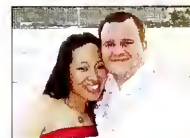


STOKES-SIKES

Sarah Christine Sikes (attended) to Denton Carl Stokes (attended), of Vicksburg, on September 20.

Keeley Pollan Greenwood to Adam Augusto Van Namen '04, of Cleveland, on September 20.

Cathy Rowsey Vaughn '97 to Russell Clay Vaughn, Jr., of Flowood, on June 6.



WOO-CELLI

Eva Woo '96 to Jonathan Luis Celli, of Cordova, on February 14.

In Memoriam

All deaths occurred in 2008 unless otherwise noted.

Rebecca Hood-Adams, '79, of Clarksdale, on June 23.

Dr. Samuel Duff Austin, friend, of Cleveland, on November 3.

Angelo R. Bianca, attended, of Florence, on August 3.

Dr. Nina A. Balagna, friend, of Greenville, on October 5.

Ja Ann Davis Clifton, '03, of Katy, TX, on December 19.

John F. Colbert, Jr., '52, of Jackson, on December 3.

Eva M. Coleman, '62, of Greenville, on August 15.

Willie Farmer, '72, of Indianola, on October 10.

Osbourne Guian, '50, of Jackson, on October 28.

Otto W. Hall, Sr., '50, of Greenwood, on July 28.

Velma S. Hamilton, '30, of Jackson, on August 2.

MacArthur Harrison, '69, of Memphis, TN, on September 27.

John L. Hathcock, '69, of Little Rock, AR, on September 19.

Barbara A. Ingram, staff, of Shaw, on October 4.

Lula B. Marshall, '76, of Greenville, on January 5, 2009.

Margaret L. McIntire, '76, of Jackson, on September 4.

Rita M. McNeer, '97, of Goodman, on August 14.

Gloria A. Mills, '65, of Osceola, AR, on September 9.

T. Ray Morgan, '52, of Birmingham, AL, on January 19, 2009.

Virginia Stigler Murray, attended, of Cleveland, on February 19, 2009.

Melanie Renee Tyler Owen, '03, of Cleveland, on October 31.

Mary E. Parks, '37, of Ocala, on August 1.

David E. Reeves, Sr., '56, of Sterling, AK, on December 30.

Dr. Arthur Hugo Richter, Jr., '43, of Greenwood, on February 14, 2009.

Mildred I. Sartin '57, of Booneville, on January 3, 2009.

Mary H. Saunders, '74, of Greenwood, on August 18.

James M. Seale, '82, of Merigold, on September 21.

Eugene H. Shepard, professor, of Milledgeville, on January 5, 2009.

Robert M. Smith, '62, of Tupelo, on October 8.

Gayle L. Snipes, attended, of Tuscaloosa, AL, on October 14.

Dean Spradling, '52, of Clarksdale, on March 3, 2009.

Glyn A. Tharp, friend, of Greenwood, on December 8.

Ted Robert Thorton, Sr., attended, of Greenville, on January 10, 2009.

Mary H. Veuleman, '58, of Jackson, on November 4.

Shirley N. White, '64, of Vicksburg, on August 16.

Myra Ja Wilson, attended, of Cleveland, on February 27, 2009.

Robert M. Wilson, '62, of Tupelo, on October 8.

Dr. Thomas Nevin Sledge 1948 – 2008



Dr. Thomas Nevin Sledge, 60, of Cleveland, passed away on December 25, following a battle with pancreatic cancer. Sledge was born on January 18, 1948, in Cleveland, to P. Nevin Sledge and Brenda Wilson Sledge. He graduated from the University of Mississippi where he was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. He held a masters degree in commercial aviation from the University of Louisiana in Monroe and a doctorate of education from Delta State University. Tommy served in the U. S. Air Force flying both a C-131 and a C-141 aircraft. When Tommy retired from the Air Force, he held the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Tommy joined the Delta State staff as an aviator instructor in 1990, and became chair of the department in 1997. He was a member of The First United Methodist Church in Cleveland, and served as the president of the Methodist Men. Tommy loved hunting and fishing and enjoyed cooking for his church. Sledge is survived by his wife, Alinda Capps Sledge, son, Allen Thomas Sledge, brother, Wilson Sledge, sisters Melissa Sledge Osborne and Luanne Sledge, father, Senator Nevin Sledge, and father-in-law, Representative Charlie Capps.

MILES AWAY

Where has the road taken you?

Share your travels with us. Let us see where you're reading the Delta State alumni magazine. Email your photos to alumni@deltastate.edu.



835 Miles Away

Ramona Von Boeckman '78, Cornelia Jones (Ward) '78, Larry Shores '78, and Roland Jones '76 in Orlando, FL.



2,150 Miles Away

Recreation with students, staff, and alumni in Kellogg, Idaho at the Silver Mountain Resort.



332 Miles Away:

Rusty Rayborn '07 and Brett Boykin '08, enjoying Bourbon Street, in New Orleans, LA.



188 Miles Away:

Alumni at the Delta State University Alumni Meeting held in Little Rock, AR.



3,942 Miles Away:

Barry Boys '85 with Blues musician in Cognac, France.

ALUMNI UPDATE

What better way to let your classmates know where you are and what you are doing than through the "Alumni Updates?"

Tell us about yourself:

- Recently married?
- Taken a new job?
- Been promoted?
- Changed addresses?
- Welcomed new children?

MAIL TO:

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1013 West Sunflower Road
Cleveland, Mississippi 38733

FAX TO: 662.446.4713

E-MAIL TO: alumni@deltastate.edu

NAME _____

MAIDEN NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE(S): (H): _____

(W): _____

(C): _____

GRADUATION YEAR OR YEAR ATTENDED _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

HERE'S MY UPDATE: _____

Alumni Happenings



2008 Hall of Fame Award Recipients Peter Jernberg '65, Ann Hannaford Lamar '74, and Langstan Rogers '66.



2008 Service Award Recipients Dwaun Warmack '99, Edward Pape '85, and Charlie Capps, Jr. at the Alumni Awards Luncheon.



Jeremy McClain '99, Senator Bob Dearing '57 and Dr. John Hilpert at the dedication of the Bob M. Dearing Athletic Hall of Fame Room.



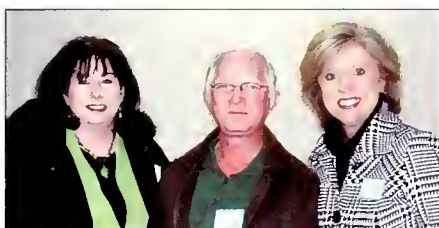
The Class of '58 at the Induction Dinner held at the Cleveland Country Club. The Class of '58 was the featured class of Homecoming 2008.



Dr. James Robinson, Charlie Capps Jr., and Vicki Fioranelli '68 visit in the Veterans' Atrium in Jobe Hall during Homecoming 2008.



Hazel Hilley, Arlene Sanders '03, and Barbara McKnight at the Black Alumni Scholarship Awards Luncheon.



Shirley Fioranelli '78, Dr. Milton Bradley, and Ramana Van Baeckman '78 supporting Delta State's basketball teams in Memphis, TN.



Horace McCoal '54, Langstan Rogers '66, Dave "Boo" Ferriss, and Stan Sandroni at the annual Alumni Awards Luncheon.



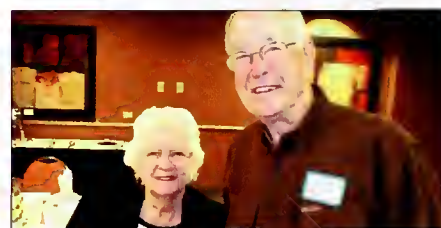
Henry Outlaw '61 (right), presents John Alexander '77, the Distinguished Alumni Award at the North Central Alumni Meeting in Oxford.



Ladies of the class of '60 at a reunion held during Pig Pickin' in the H.L. Nowell Student Union.



2008 Pig Pickin' BBQ winners.



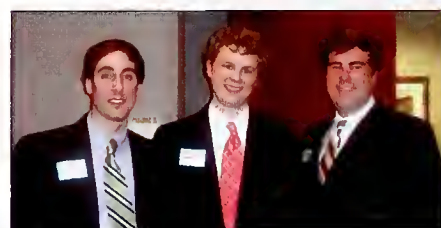
Mildred Castle '44 and Richard Collins '53 at the 2008 Little Rock Alumni Meeting.



Mike Neyman '72, Bill LaForge '72, and Mike Ellis '74 playing music together at the 45th Pi Kappa Alpha Reunion.



Betty Jo Abraham '64, Jerry Peyton '63, and Diane Peyton at the annual Atlanta Alumni Meeting held at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen.



Jeffrey Farris '04, Will Crump '05, and P.J. Waldrop '06 at an alumni gathering held at Winstead Law Firm in Washington, D.C.



broadway musical

MAY 31 - JUNE 27

creative artists theater

MAY 31 - JUNE 7

core arts

JUNE 7 - JUNE 20

msai + 1

JULY 6 - JULY 11

delta music institute

JULY 12 - JULY 18

msai + 2

JULY 20 - JULY 25

2009 Schedule



JANICE WYATT

msai

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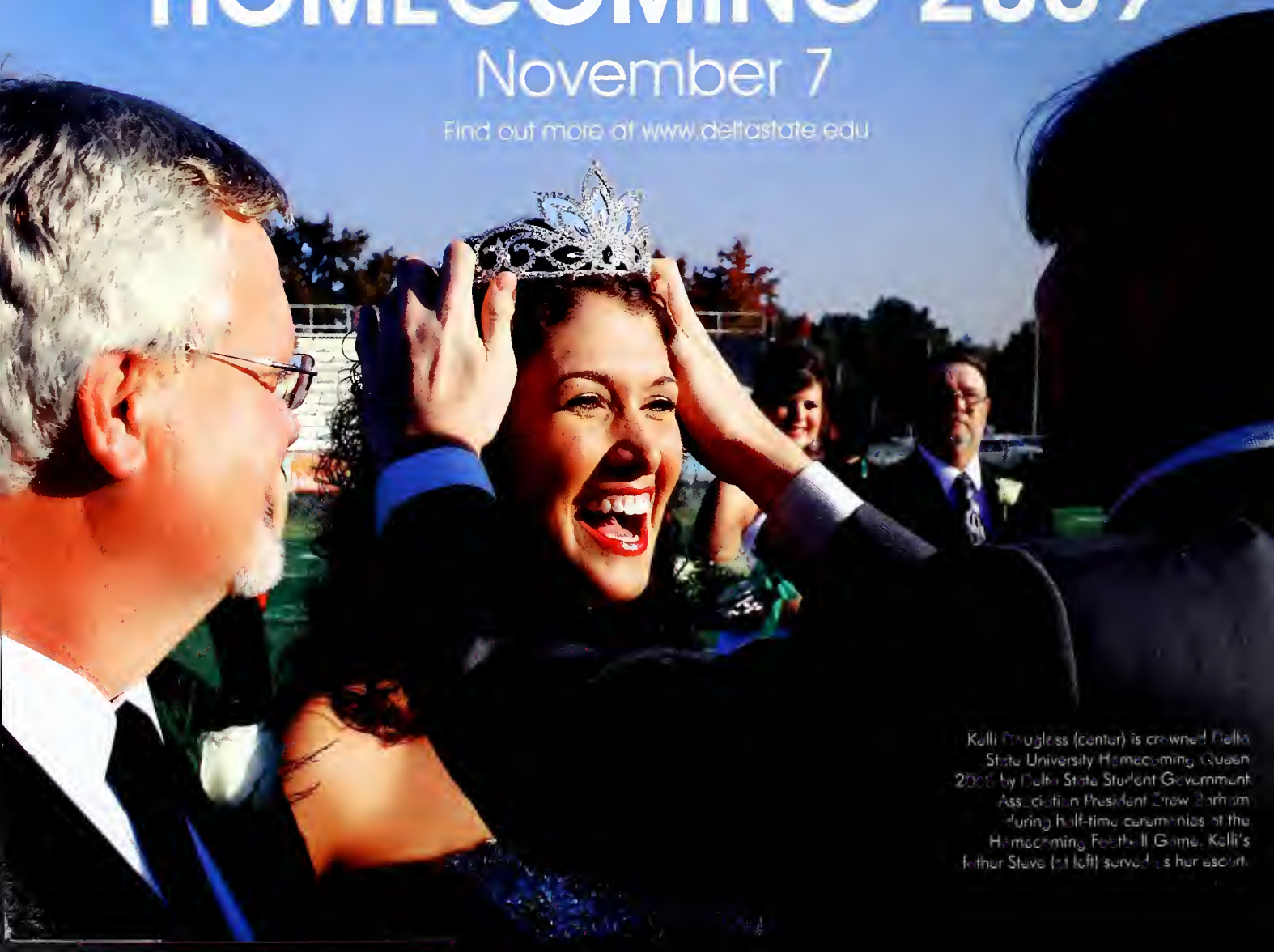
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Kelli Druggless (center) is crowned Delta State University Homecoming Queen 2009 by Delta State Student Government Association President Drew Barham during half-time ceremonies at the Homecoming Football Game. Kelli's father Steve (left) served as her escort.